

Exhibit 7

Chuck C. Johnson Is The Easiest Man In The World To Troll

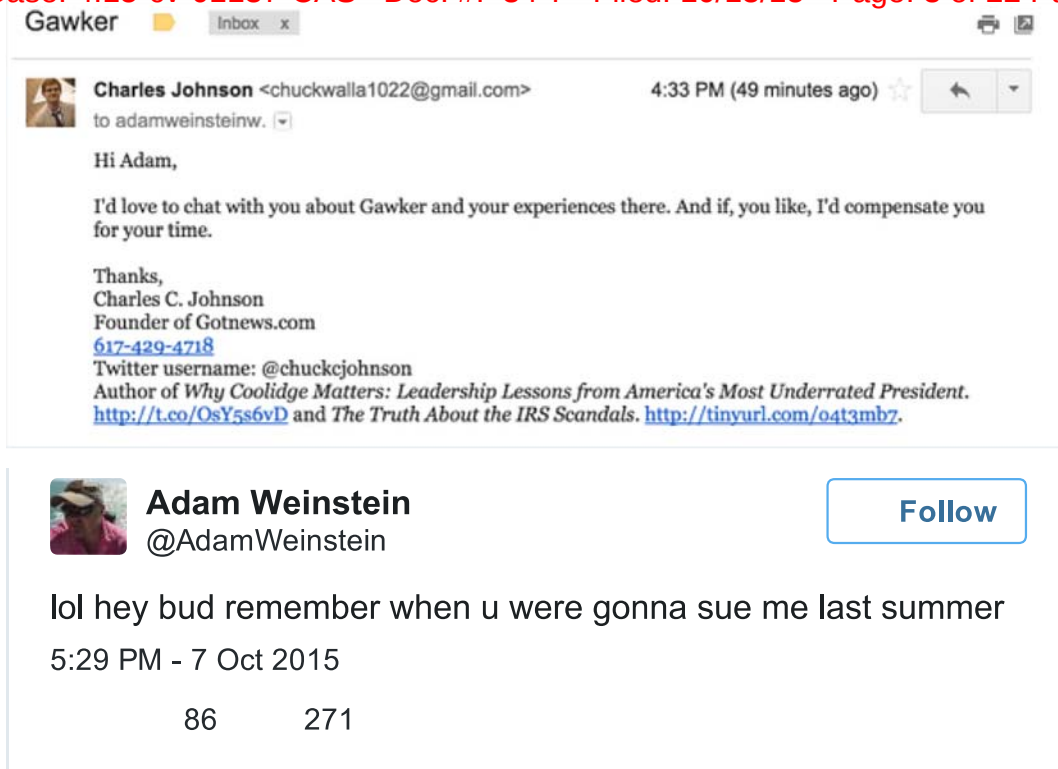


K. Thor Jensen

10/12/15 3:53pm



Last week former Gawker writer Adam Weinstein started getting some emails from America's least capable journalist, Chuck C. Johnson.



Last year, Gawker had written about persistent rumors surrounding Johnson's time at the Claremont Colleges – most notably that he had taken a dump on the floor. At the time, Johnson threatened to sue the company and Weinstein (a frequent threat levied at his many enemies).



Adam Weinstein
@AdamWeinstein

7 Oct

lol hey bud remember when u were gonna sue me last summer
pic.twitter.com/1QQOYIfG1o



Adam Weinstein
@AdamWeinstein

Follow

pic.twitter.com/EgA9HzZ1xx

6:18 PM - 7 Oct 2015

[Back to Twitter](#) 6:13 PM 55%

[Primary](#)

Charles Johnson
Hi Adam, I'd love to chat with you about Gawker and your experiences there. And if, you like, I'd

Adam Weinstein
What would you like to know? And how much can you pay?

Charles Johnson
Why don't we talk on the phone? 617 429 4718

Charles Johnson
to Adam
6 minutes ago [Details](#)

Might go better.

Don't be stupid here.

Charles C. Johnson
Founder of Gotnews.com
617-429-4718
Twitter username: @chuckcjohnson
Author of *Why Coolidge Matters: Leadership Lessons*

from America's Most Underrated President.
<http://t.co/OsY5s6vD> and *The Truth About the IRS*
Scandals. <http://tinyurl.com/o4t3mb7>.

12

40



Adam Weinstein

@AdamWeinstein

pic.twitter.com/EgA9HzZ1xx

7 Oct



Adam Weinstein

@AdamWeinstein

Follow

pic.twitter.com/l4wADG98pq

6:18 PM - 7 Oct 2015



Seandals: <http://tinyurl.com/o4t3mb7>.

23

62



Adam Weinstein
@AdamWeinstein

7 Oct

nothing i hate more than a shitty negotiation



Adam Weinstein
@AdamWeinstein


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cont'd... more tk pic.twitter.com/FAGSJe25Mp

8:15 PM - 7 Oct 2015

••••• AT&T LTE 8:15 PM 90%


< Primary



Charles Johnson
We're having a friendly conversation until we aren't.
You're the one who made up things about me. I'd



Adam Weinstein
You call me "not very bright," you threaten to sue me,
you say I "made up things" about you, and it's a

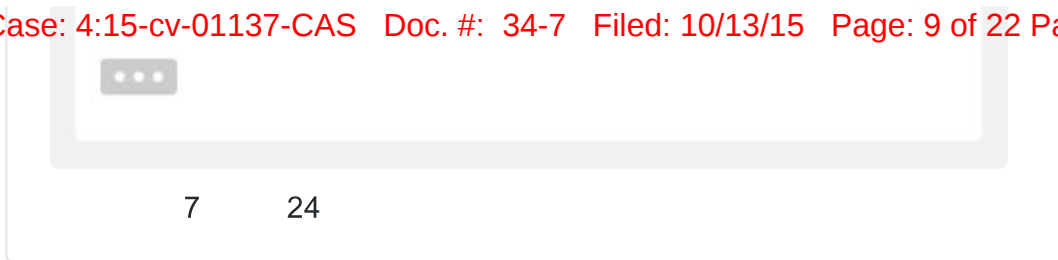


Charles Johnson
to Adam
30 minutes ago [Details](#)

I can pay but you've been a dick. Be nice.

I'm rooting for you after you got fucked.

Charles C. Johnson
Founder of Gotnews.com
617-429-4718
Twitter username: @chuckcjohnson
Author of *Why Coolidge Matters: Leadership Lessons from America's Most Underrated President.*
<http://t.co/OsY5s6vD> and *The Truth About the IRS Scandals.* <http://tinyurl.com/o4t3mb7>.



Johnson actually filed a defamation suit against Gawker earlier this year for \$66 million, but in a bizarre legal move he filed the case in Missouri, against a New York company, with a plaintiff in California. Gawker's lawyers filed a motion to dismiss on anti-SLAPP grounds (basically saying that the lawsuit was intended to intimidate the press), and most commentators agree that's the most likely outcome. Chuck's deadline to respond to this motion was last Friday, October 9th, so frantically trying to get inside information about the company two days before that is... curious.

Let's talk about *me* for a second. Over the summer, I had some free time in New York City. Coincidentally, Gawker Media was having some troubles in the aftermath of publishing a particularly odious story outing a non-notable, non-public person for hiring a gay escort. Two of the company's top editorial staffers resigned in the wake of it, and I saw my moment.



K. Thor Jensen
@kthorjensen

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Current mood: ready to resolve an editorial power vacuum

4:25 PM - 22 Jul 2015

4 26

Obviously I did not become the Editor in Chief of Gawker, but I spent the next few days pretending I had:



Log in / Sign up

What Famous Man Did The Cocaine Last Weekend?



K. Thor Jensen

Filed to: GOOD ASS KINJA 7/23/15 7:33am



1 2 3 4

It's highly probable that at least one male celebrity did cocaine last weekend. If you know who it was, use your Kinja account to post below in the Kinja area and join the Kinjversation!

Contact the author at kthor@gawker.com.



K. Thor Jensen

@kthorjensen

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Excited to share my first post as new Editor-In-Chief of
[@Gawker](#)

5:03 PM - 22 Jul 2015

21

85

500 Days of Kristin, Day 179: What Happened To Kristin's Arm?

K. Thor Jensen shared a post by K. Thor Jensen

5 ☆



Kristin Cavallari has a weird bruise on her arm. What could be the cause of that weird bruise?

» Tomorrow 4:11pm



K. Thor Jensen

@kthorjensen

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Excited to share my second post as the new Editor-In-Chief of
[@Gawker](#)

5:39 PM - 22 Jul 2015

13


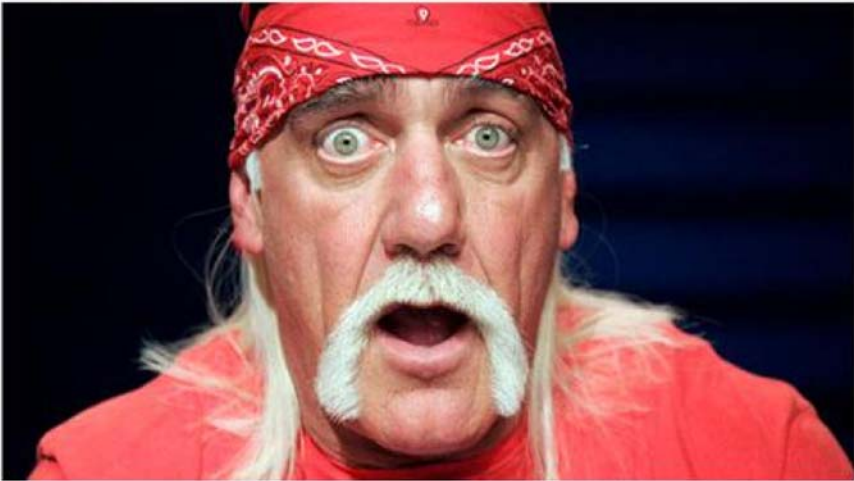
resome

complicated. What with texting, Emoji,.... »7/14/15 11:55am


Guy Who We Watched Fuck Says "Nigger" All The Time

K. Thor Jensen and 554 others

31



World Wrestling Entertainment has reportedly cut ties with Hulk Hogan, the guy we all watched fuck another man's wife like some kind of paunchy, horny barnyard animal, after a videotape of him using racial slurs like they were anabolic steroids was discovered. » Today 12:05am



K. Thor Jensen
@kthorjensen

Follow

As editor-in-chief of [@Gawker](#) I will be covering today's Hulk Hogan news with the gravitas and respect it deserves

6:53 AM - 24 Jul 2015

30 72

The best thing about this was that people actually believed it. And not just credulous Gamergate buffoons (although there were plenty of them as well), but actual media types.



K. Thor Jensen
@kthorjensen

24 Jul

Special tweet for late night media folks: the first post for Monday's new 20% nicer [@Gawker](#), which I edit.
pic.twitter.com/Qb9Gk6FVmH



b00nes
@b00nes

Follow

surely someone as talented and necessary as [@kthorjensen](#) can easily find employment elsewhahahaha I almost made it

[@Gawker](#) [#GamerGate](#)

10:32 AM - 25 Jul 2015

1



Howard Sherman
@hsherman

Follow

.[@Gawker](#) new EIC. As Letterman used to say:
youtu.be/vysh13WRTcc twitter.com/kthorjensen/st...

2:37 PM - 23 Jul 2015



YouTube @YouTube

David Letterman: "To a Monkey on a Rock"



1

I kept "posting stories" for a few days

We Read This On Another Website And Added Irony To It

K. Thor Jensen and 885 others

45 ☆



You probably already read this on [another website](#), but now we're going to post it here on Gawker because the concept of "original journalism" is absurd in the information-saturated age we live in. There is literally no value in being "first" to cover a story except to get called out if it's wrong, so we're not falling for that shit anymore. Our value add is the sweet, sweet irony, after the jump. » [Today 12:05am](#)



K. Thor Jensen

@kthorjensen

[Follow](#)

Obviously a very busy day here at [@Gawker](#) but I'm still knocking out the high-value content

9:54 AM - 24 Jul 2015

27

58

Hot Take: Everything You Like Is Actually Good And Will Be Good Forever And You Don't Have To Feel Bad About Anything

K. Thor Jensen



Bill Cosby. Hulk Hogan. Trans fats. Unprotected sex. Everything beautiful in the world has been despoiled by a toxic mixture of irony and actual crime. Today Gawker says no more. The age of snark is over, and we now usher in an age of glorious acceptance for literally anything you like. Maroon Five? Vibram toe shoes? The Chive? It's all great, and will be great forever. » 7/28/15 7:31am



K. Thor Jensen

@kthorjensen

Follow


Special tweet for late night media folks: the first post for Monday's new 20% nicer [@Gawker](#), which I edit.


10:38 PM - 24 Jul 2015


10

35

All good things must come to an end, and eventually I shuttered the ruse.

PPC IOI Get on the PPC Honor Roll  **DOWNLOAD FREE GUIDE** WordStr


Vox EXPLAINERS 




What is cum?

By K. Thor Jensen July 27, 2015, 10:50 a.m. ET

This mysterious white substance seems to have a vital function in our world. But what is it, really?



2015 H
Autom
Sign &
Drive

**K. Thor Jensen**
@kthorjensen

Follow

It is with mixed emotions that I announce my resignation from [@Gawker](#) to become the new EIC of [@voxdotcom](#)

11:50 AM - 27 Jul 2015

5 40

Fast forward to last week. I saw Adam Weinstein's tweets and one of those cartoon lightbulbs popped up over my head.

**kthorjensen@gmail.com**
to chuckwalla1022

Oct 7 (5 days ago) ☆  

Hey, they brought me in as interim editor for a few weeks this summer on an emergency basis and my NDA was never signed - I'd love to talk. Here's a pic of me at the old office for verification.

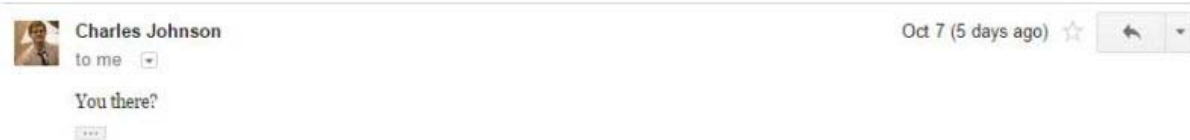
Sent from my iPhone



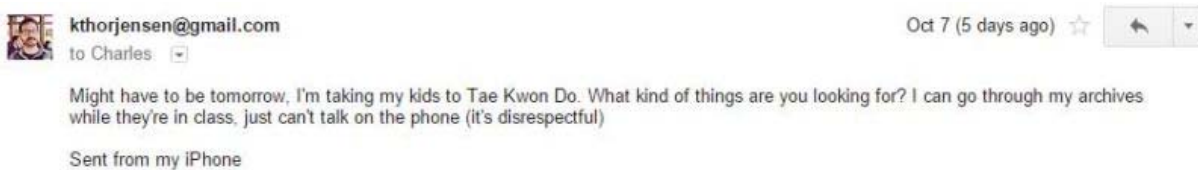
Six minutes later:



“Oh my God he wrote back. Gotta come up with a response. Gotta...”



(literally 10 minutes after the last email) THIS DUDE IS THIRSTY. I really didn't want to talk to him on the phone though.



This was true. I mean, the Tae Kwon Do part.



Charles Johnson
to me

Oct 7 (5 days ago)

This is what I'm looking for and will pay for if you have it.

I strongly believe that the upper echelon in Gawker, and possibly Denton himself, have circulated a number of key memos to Gawker writers and possibly other staff. I don't know, of course, how long ago he wrote it, but it simply must exist based on the similarity in article format/narrative styles and also the importance from a leadership standpoint of keeping everyone on the same page. Plus, with defamation being such a big issue, I'm sure Gawker has a defamation policy. It would be great if we could discover the following memos, which simply MUST exist either in email format or as a classic memo distributed throughout the office:

Possible Memos that Exist

* A memo on circumventing defamation laws - I believe that either a general counsel or other lawyer has drafted a memo for Gawker, detailing the fundamentals of defamation law, and outlining ways in which Gawker writers can circumvent defamation liability. Possible examples might include: the inclusion of disclaimers in the article ("I have no way of knowing this," "There is absolutely no evidence of X"), wording article titles as questions (Is Senator X secretly a member of the KKK?), and possibly the level of protections that ANTI-SLAPP laws offer (which the memo might suggest should embolden writers to be more controversial, due to the increased costs).

* A memo on writing articles so that they become "click bait" - Something describing a methodology to SENSATIONALIZE a story. Perhaps also to penalize or hurt the subject of the story.

* A memo on the IMPORTANCE of getting readers to COMMENT on articles - Getting readers to comment on articles and in particular getting them emotionally charged up and unloading in comment boards is somehow good for business. I haven't seen any direct studies on this, but a variety of experts have written that massive comment board action translates directly to money, as it has something to do with motivating readers to share stories. Obviously, the more shares, the more eyeballs, the more impressions and ad revenue.

* A memo on the importance of Kinja sharing, content sharing, and reader interaction and possible collaboration - Denton developed KINJA to prevent Facebook and Twitter from profiting off of the circulation of Gawker content. This topic is related to the one immediately above. Reader collaboration and interaction is a huge issue. It's extremely clear that they use comment board as an additional publication platform, but with FREE labor - the reader/commenters!!!! If we could find Denton or someone in MGMT saying this, it's a huge win.

- A memo describing the BUSINESS MODEL of Gawker and ALSO the importance of SPECIFICALLY TARGETING viewers in SPECIFIC geographic areas, ESPECIALLY TARGETING ST. LOUIS OR MISSOURI. - For example, the Deadspin.com website has published articles which have repeatedly attacked the ST LOUIS CARDINALS and ST. LOUISANS who are fans of the Cardinals.

* A memo righteously describing the importance of making certain big shots PAY DEARLY by exposing them for their sins.

Hoooooly shit. At this point I knew I was dealing with a true madman. As anybody who has ever worked for any kind of reputable media organization or third-tier Internet gossip blog knows, the idea that memos of this type would exist is absolutely ludicrous. But let's roll with it, shall we?



kthorjensen@gmail.com
to Charles

Oct 7 (5 days ago)

Some of these for sure ring a bell. I'm not interested in money - I live very comfortably, as evidenced by the fact that both of my children can take Tae Kwon Do - so maybe we can do a charitable donation instead.

Sent from my iPhone



Charles Johnson
to me

Oct 7 (5 days ago)

Works for me.




Charles Johnson
to me


Oct 7 (5 days ago)

If you have them I want them and we'll figure out how things should shake out.

Meanwhile, on Adam Weinstein's Twitter...

**Adam Weinstein**
@AdamWeinstein
lol pic.twitter.com/WqGGPzRSho

7 Oct

**Adam Weinstein**
@AdamWeinstein

Follow

ah ha ha ha i died


you've been a wonderful audience
pic.twitter.com/1LaO4wCG2W

9:28 PM - 7 Oct 2015

call me 617 429 4718

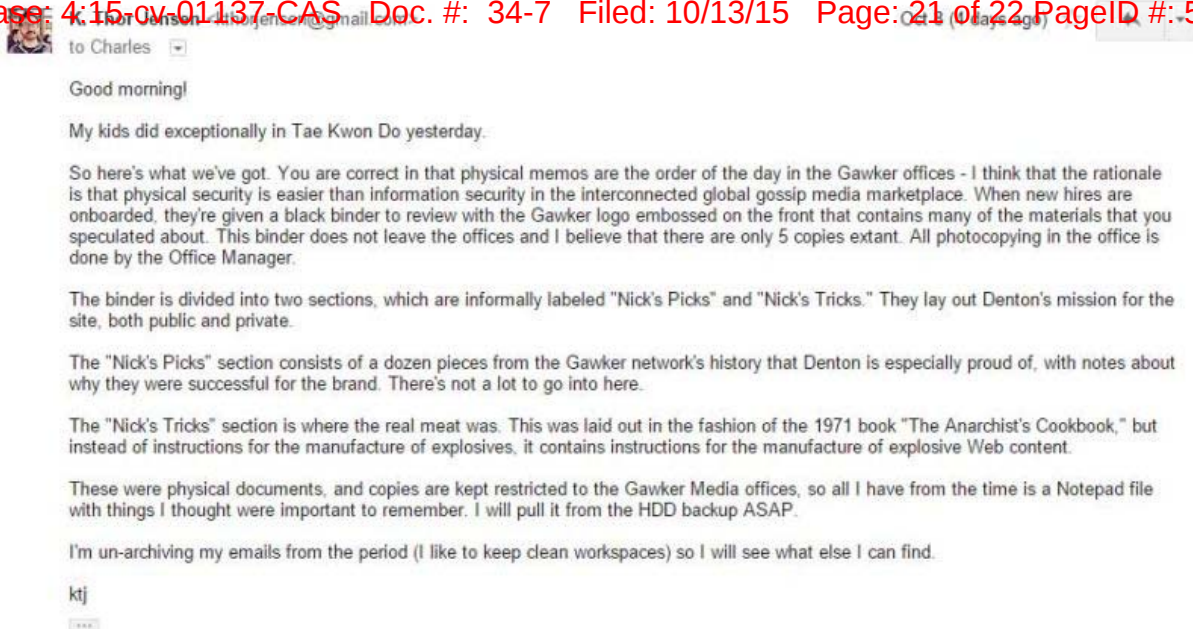
Charles C. Johnson
Founder of Gotnews.com
617-429-4718
Twitter username: @chuckcjohnson
Author of *Why Coolidge Matters: Leadership Lessons from America's Most Underrated President*.
<http://t.co/OsY5s6vD> and *The Truth About the IRS Scandals*. <http://tinyurl.com/o4t3mb7>.

On Wed, Oct 7, 2015 at 5:21 PM, Charles Johnson <chuckwalla1022@gmail.com> wrote:

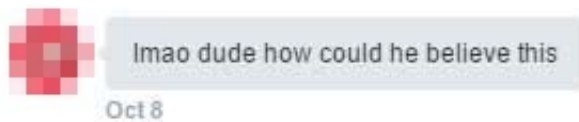
**Charles Johnson**

14 74

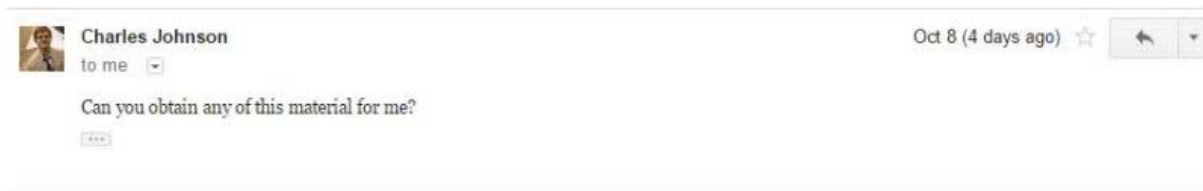
I slept on it and sent him this in the morning.



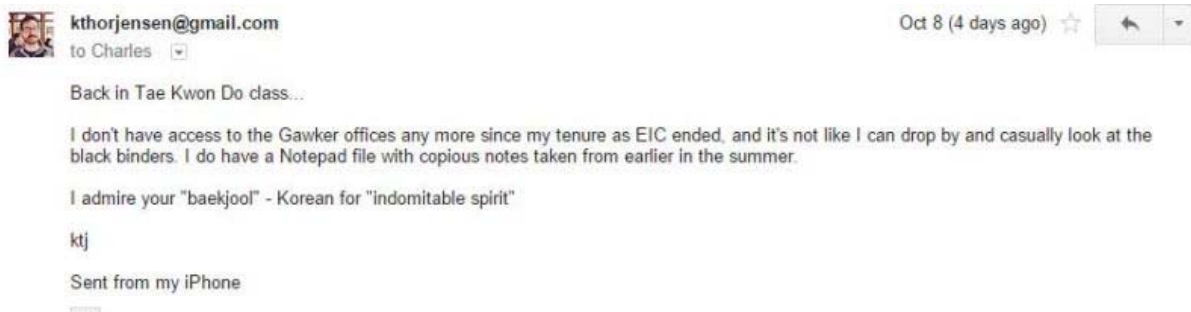
I also shared the events so far with some friends on Twitter by DM



WELP

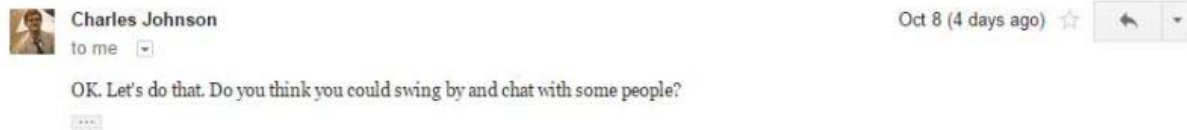


Oh my God.



So at this point I wanted to keep giving him stuff but I didn't want to have any of it be something that he would file in Federal court, and it was plainly obvious that Johnson was gullible enough to fall for

anything that painted Gawker Media as a cartoon terrorist organization. Then, strangely, Chuck changed tacks a little bit.



A note: I live three time zones away from the Gawker Media offices. Was Chuck C. Johnson trying to get me to go pump employees for information? Would I have to wear a wire, like on the classic HBO TV show Def Comedy Jam? I needed to know more.



Sadly, I would never get closure on this question, as on October 9th Chuck C. Johnson stopped talking to me. It also doesn't seem like he filed his response to Gawker's motion to dismiss, but he claims he did so we'll have to wait and see on this one.